(c) whether Government have assessed the loss suffered by the traditional businessmen and the State Government on this account; and

(d) the steps taken to restart the above trade link route?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI SATYABRATA MOOKHERJEE): (a) and (b) The trade link route between Pithoragarh in Uttaranchal and Taklakot Mandi in Tibet under the Indo-China border trade could not be opened in June, as usual, due to SARS in China.

(c) While no assessment has been made by the Government for loss suffered by the traditional businessmen and the State Government on this account, trade has suffered partially.

(d) The trade link route has already been resumed w.e.f. 1st July, 2003.

Failure of SEZs Plan

2241. SHRI K. KALAVENKATA RAO: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's plan to set up Special Economic Zones in different parts of the country has failed to take off;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps taken to revive the plan and make it a success?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI SATYABRATA MOOKHERJEE): (a) to (c) The Special Economic Zone (SEZ) Scheme announced by the Government in April 2000 has been receiving encouraging response. So far approval has been given for setting up of 21 SEZs on the basis of proposals received from State Government/private promoters.

The Greenfield SEZs are being set up largely in the private sector in association with the State Governments and are in nature of large infrastructure projects with long gestation period. Of the 21 SEZs approved for establishment, SEZs at Indore (Madhya Pradesh), Salt Lake, Kolkata (West Bengal) and Jaipur (Rajasthan) are now ready for operation. SEZs at Navi Mumbai and Maha Mumbai (Maharashtra),

Visakhapatnam (Andhra Pradesh), Gopalpur (Orissa), Hassan (Karnataka) and Jodhpur (Rajasthan) have made substantial progress and sizeable area of land is in possession of the implementing agencies.

Import of Indian Mangoes by China

2242. SHRIMATI VANGA GEETHA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether China has shown interest in importing Indian mangoes;

(b) if so, whether any agreement has been reached for export of mangoes to China; and

(c) if so, the estimated quantity of mangoes to be exported to China and the estimate of foreign exchange to be earned from this export?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI SATYABRATA MOOKHERJEE): (a) and (b) The People's Republic of China signed a protocol with the Government of India on Phyto Sanitary requirement for exporting mangoes from India to China.

(c) It is premature to make an estimate of export of mangoes to China at this stage.

Automobile Export and Import

2243. SHRI K. RAMA MOHANA RAO: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the automobile exports made by India during the last three years, year-wise;

(b) the details of the automobile parts exported by India during the above period, year-wise;

(c) whether it is a fact that the export of commercial, utility and multipurpose vehicles declined during the last year;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor; and